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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/706,823	11/12/2003	Dirk Golz	DSC-196	6937
75	90 11/01/2006		EXAMINER	
LERNER AND GREENBERG, P.A.			HUNNINGS, TRAVIS R	
POST OFFICE			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
HOLLYWOOD, FL 33022-2480			2612	

DATE MAILED: 11/01/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/706,823	GOLZ ET AL.	
Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Travis R. Hunnings	2612	
The MAILING DATE of this communication Period for Reply	appears on the cover sheet with	h the correspondence addre	ess
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RE WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFF after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory per Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by stany reply received by the Office later than three months after the meanned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).	G DATE OF THIS COMMUNIC R 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a re- riod will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONT atute, cause the application to become ABA	ATION. ply be timely filed "HS from the mailing date of this commuNDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).	·
Status			
1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>0</u>	2 October 2006.		
2a) ☐ This action is FINAL . 2b) ☑ 1	This action is non-final.		
3) Since this application is in condition for allo	wance except for formal matte	ers, prosecution as to the m	erits is
closed in accordance with the practice und	er <i>Ex parte Quayle</i> , 1935 C.D.	11, 453 O.G. 213.	
Disposition of Claims			
4) ☑ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application 4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are without 5) ☐ Claim(s) is/are allowed. 6) ☑ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected. 7) ☐ Claim(s) is/are objected to. 8) ☐ Claim(s) are subject to restriction and	drawn from consideration.		
Application Papers	· .		
9) The specification is objected to by the Exam 10) The drawing(s) filed on 12 November 2003 Applicant may not request that any objection to Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the cor 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the	is/are: a)⊠ accepted or b)☐ the drawing(s) be held in abeyand rrection is required if the drawing(s	ce. See 37 CFR 1.85(a). s) is objected to. See 37 CFR	1.121(d).
Priority under 25 U.S.C. & 419			
Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for fore a) All b) Some * c) None of: 1. Certified copies of the priority docum 2. Certified copies of the priority docum 3. Copies of the certified copies of the papplication from the International But *`See the attached detailed Office action for a	nents have been received. nents have been received in Appriority documents have been reau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).	oplication No received in this National St	age
Attachment(s)	_		
Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date	Paper No(s)	ummary (PTO-413) /Mail Date formal Patent Application _	

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1, 2, 4-6 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Girard (US Patent 5,721,666).

Regarding claim 1, Girard discloses Device Panel With In-Molded Applique that has the following claimed limitations:

The claimed control circuit being a functional unit having at least one component selected from the group consisting of operating elements, control elements, switching elements, and display elements, said control circuit having a circuit front side is met by the molded assembly having devices which control the operation of the device as shown in figures 1-3 (column 4, lines 10-38);

The claimed operating panel having a single through opening formed therein receiving said operating panel being a separable part from said control circuit and receiving said control circuit, said operating panel having a panel front side adapted to a configuration of said circuit front side of said control circuit such that said circuit front

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side is either flush with or projects beyond said panel front side is met by the planar structure that holds the molded assembly flush with the front of the device as can be seen in figures 1 and 3 (column 4, lines 10-38). The molded assembly shown in figure 3 is the complete assembly taken away from the planar structure such that they are two separate elements. The claimed operating panel is met by the molded portion (28) that defines a window (52) which exposes an area of the reverse side (48) of the panel structure (44) which is the control circuit that contains the electronics (column 4, lines 10-51).

Regarding claim 2, the control circuit is a control module in which all functions which are relevant in terms of control procedures and all operating and display elements including mechanical and optical functional elements are integrated is met by the molded assembly containing all the devices and controls for operating the device (column 4, lines 10-38).

Regarding claim 4, the claimed circuit front side of said control module is adapted to said panel front side is met by the molded assembly being flush with the device as can be seen in figures 1 and 2.

Regarding claim 5, the claimed control front side of said control module has a region for information is met by the molded assembly having all the controls needed to operate the device as seen in figure 3.

Regarding claim 6, the claimed region being provided with at least one of text and symbols is met by the molded assembly having the controls as shown in figure 3.

Regarding claim 8, the claimed component being one of a plurality of components forming said control circuit is met by the multiple controls as shown in figure 3 and the claimed operating panel not containing any of said components is met by the molded assembly containing all of the control elements (column 4, lines 10-38).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

- 3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:
 - (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.
- 4. Claims 3 and 7 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Girard.

Regarding claim 3, Girard discloses all of the claimed limitations except for the claimed power switch integrated into said control module. Girard teaches the molded assembly containing any type of controls or devices that are used to operate the device (column 4, lines 10-38). Adding a power control would allow the device to be turned off when not in use and therefore save power for the user. Therefore it would have been

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obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the device

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disclosed by Girard to include a power switch in the module.

Regarding claim 7, Girard discloses all of claimed limitations except for the

claimed region having a display for changing items of information. Girard teaches the

molded assembly containing any type of controls or devices that are used to operate the

device (column 4, lines 10-38). It would have been well known to one of ordinary skill in

the art to include a display for displaying changing items of information such as oven

temperature and a clock in order to provide the most information possible to the user.

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention to modify the device disclosed by Girard to include a display for displaying

changing items of information.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments filed 6 September 2006 have been fully considered but

they are not persuasive. Applicant argues the following:

Argument A: Girard does not have a through-hole window as claimed in the

present invention.

Responses:

Regarding argument A, the window of Girard has an opening which one of ordinary skill in the art would have considered to meet the limitation of a through-hole as seen in column 4, lines 10-51: the molded portion defines a window which exposes an are of the reverse side of the panel structure.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Travis R. Hunnings whose telephone number is (571) 272-3118. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 am - 5:00 pm M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Daniel J. Wu can be reached on (571) 272-2964. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

TRH

SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER